

CLASSIFICATION SECRET

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COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

TOPIC Information on KVP Units at Weisswasser Troop Training Grounds

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EVALUATION

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REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. From 26 July to 2 August 1953, many KVP units arrived at, or left, the Weisswasser troop camp. The KVP units which arrived from Weimar on 24 July, left again on 26 July. [redacted] the KVP units generally held two-week courses in firing and driving. Firing by machine guns, artillery pieces and tank guns was heard throughout the day from the firing range southeast of Nochten. [redacted]

2. [redacted] construction work had been done since three weeks by a KVP unit at the Traenke troop training grounds which was located between Pechern and Mietschen. During the three-week period, 40 cubic meters of timber were daily consumed for the construction of underground bunkers, field fortifications and temporary buildings. The troop training grounds was guarded by a KVP detail which was quartered at the former sawmill at Traenke. [redacted] after mid-August or early September a large maneuver would be held at this area.

3. At 10 a.m. on 4 August, a troop train which had arrived from the direction of Cottbus was unloaded at Weisswasser [redacted] and one boxcar loaded with boxes, 30 x 40 cm. The train was escorted by 60 Soviet soldiers who wore red-bordered black epaulets. These soldiers were trucked toward Nochten.

4. On 4 and 5 August, firing by heavy machine guns, submachine guns and carbines was practiced at the infantry training grounds. The firing of tank guns was heard from the tank firing range. Six armored scout cars were used for driving school purpose in the wooded area near Nochten and Boxberg. The scout cars were occupied by Soviet soldiers and KVP personnel.

5. [redacted]

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- 25X1 6. From 6 to 11 August, an estimated 6,000 to 7,000 KVPs were stationed at the Weisswasser troop training grounds. The units stationed there had come from Chemnitz, Halle, Erfurt, Leipzig, Goerlitz, Loebau and Zittau. [redacted]

[redacted]  
An undetermined number of Soviet instructors including officers had been observed for some time at Camp Nochten.

7. Training activities by KVP units were daily observed at the troop training grounds between 6 and 11 August. Firing with heavy machine guns, submachine guns and carbines was practiced. No combat training or advanced combat practice firing was observed. Two or three times every week, tank and AT guns practiced firing with live ammunition at the tank firing range. [redacted]

[redacted] KVP tank crews were being trained by Soviet instructors. [redacted]  
[redacted] the KVPs were asked by their PK officers to volunteer for employment against partisans in Poland.

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1. [redacted] Comment. The frequent change of KVP units stationed at the Weisswasser troop training grounds is confirmed [redacted] The KVP language school is the only KVP unit located in Weimar. The information possibly refers to a unit [redacted] identical to the unit which reportedly moved from Dresden to Ohyst on 24 July and from Ohyst to Dresden on 26 July.

2. [redacted] Comment. The area mentioned is immediately east of the Weisswasser-Nochten troop training grounds.

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3. [redacted] Comment. Besides the units of TV 3000 and TV 6000, the troop training grounds is used by Bereitschaften of the Ministry of the Interior from Berlin. [redacted]  
[redacted] 5,600 to 6,000 KVPs were stationed at the troop training grounds on 30 July 1952. [redacted]

[redacted] The statement that volunteers were being recruited for employment against partisans in Poland is believed to be unfounded.

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## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY East Germany  
SUBJECT Production of Tannin by VEB  
Chemische Werke Reichenbach

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Chemische Werke Reichenbach VEB, a former Schering-Konzern plant intends to produce tannin and gallic acid from Chinese galls. Stores on hand amounted to about 600 tons of Chinese galls yielding a 50 to 60 percent substance if processed according to standard methods. While only small quantities of tannin had been processed so far, a considerable increase was planned for the future. The price was scheduled to be about 30 eastmarks per kg.

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